

Issue NE-CW3704, released September 13, 2004, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541 or e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov. Homepage - <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending September 12, 2004, above normal temperatures and windy conditions caused dryland crop conditions to decline and moved fall crops toward maturity, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Producer activities included silage harvest, preparing for fall grain harvest, fall wheat seeding, and harvesting alfalfa.

Weather Summary: Temperatures for the week averaged 3 to 4 degrees above normals. Precipitation was statewide but less than .50 inch in most locations.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending September 12, 2004

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Topsoil				
Very Short	28	33	38	33
Short	40	38	30	29
Adequate	32	29	29	36
Surplus	0	0	3	2
Subsoil				
Very Short	42	43	48	41
Short	36	31	40	31
Adequate	22	26	12	27
Surplus	0	0	0	1
Days Suitable	6.5	6.8	5.0	5.8

Field Crops Report: Corn condition declined and rated 4 percent very poor, 7 poor, 22 fair, 44 good, and 23 excellent, above last year and average. Irrigated fields rated 78 percent good and excellent while dryland fields moved lower to 53. This compares to 76 and 10, respectively, a year ago. Ninety-seven percent of the acreage had reached the dough stage, just behind last year at 98 and average at 99. Seventy-eight percent had dented, behind last year at 86 and average at 92. Eleven percent of the fields were considered mature, behind last year at 22 and average at 36. Harvest had made a limited start in a few areas.

Soybeans condition declined and rated 5 percent very poor, 12 poor, 31 fair, 40 good, and 12 excellent, still well above last year and average. Sixty-five percent of the acreage was turning color, ahead of last year at 58 but behind average at 67. Plants had dropped leaves on 21 percent of the acreage, ahead of last year at 16 percent but behind average at 26. The first fields of soybeans were being harvested.

Sorghum condition declined and rated 6 percent very poor, 14 poor, 42 fair, 32 good, and 6 excellent, still well above last year and average. Ninety-nine percent had headed out, ahead of last year at 97 and the same as average. Fields were showing color on 67 percent of the acreage, ahead of last year at 60 but behind average at 76. Six percent of the acreage was mature, behind last year at 9 and average at 22.

Dry bean conditions declined and rated 7 percent very poor, 15 poor, 27 fair, 42 good, and 9 excellent. Fifty-five percent had turned color, well behind last year at 83 and average at 85. Sixteen percent had dropped leaves, well behind last year at

53 and average at 62. Six percent of the acreage was harvested, behind last year at 16 and average at 25.

Proso millet harvest progressed to 17 percent complete, behind last year at 34.

Wheat seeding moved ahead to 28 percent, ahead of last year at 26 and average at 21.

Alfalfa conditions declined and rated 12 percent very poor, 20 poor, 31 fair, 30 good, and 7 excellent, above last year and average. Third cutting activities were 92 percent complete, behind last year at 95 and average at 96. Fourth cutting activities were 20 percent harvested, behind last year at 21 and average at 28.

Crop Progress:
Nebraska, Week Ending September 12, 2004

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Alfalfa 4 th Cutting	20	8	21	28
Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	92	87	95	96
Corn Dent	78	64	86	92
Corn Mature	11	3	22	36
Corn Harvested	1	0	1	4
Sorghum Turning Color	67	37	60	76
Sorghum Mature	6	2	9	22
Sorghum Harvested	0	0	0	4
Soybeans Turning Color	65	32	58	67
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	21	7	16	26
Wheat Seeded	28	8	26	21

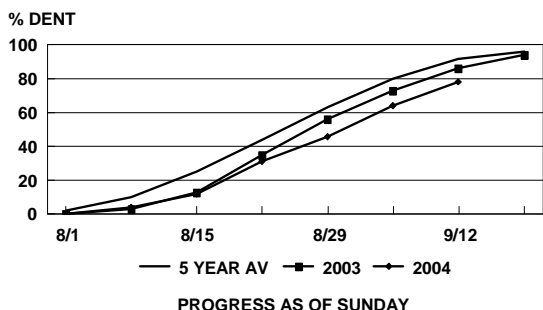
Crop Condition:
Nebraska, Week Ending September 12, 2004

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Alfalfa	12	20	31	30	7
Corn	4	7	22	44	23
Sorghum	6	14	42	32	6
Soybeans	5	12	31	40	12

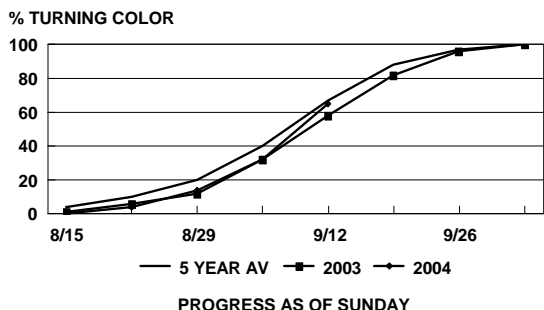
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition declined and rated 21 percent very poor, 27 poor, 31 fair, 21 good, and none excellent, but remained above a year ago and average.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm. For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2004.htm>.

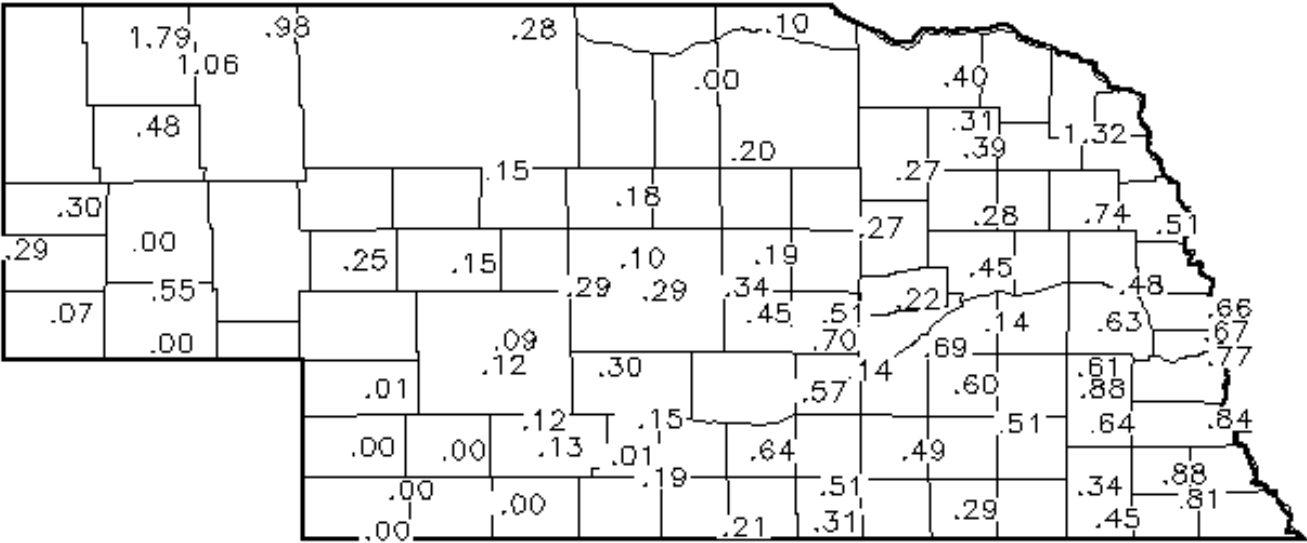
CORN



SOYBEANS



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending September 12, 2004



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - September 12, 2004

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week 1	.51	.10	.45	.35	.56	.05	.26	.56
Total since April 1	11.75	13.46	16.23	14.42	15.28	16.07	14.27	17.17
Normal since April 1	12.29	15.42	17.77	16.90	19.12	14.67	16.72	19.97
Total as % of normal	95%	87%	91%	85%	79%	109%	85%	86%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, September 12, 2004

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	91	44	66	+4	111	2066	2388
	Scottsbluff	93	45	66	+4	114	2222	2384
	Sidney	94	44	68	+5	124	2140	2459
NC	Ainsworth	94	45	70	+5	134	2337	2708
	Arthur	94	45	69	+4	125	2165	2615
	O'Neill	93	48	71	+5	138	2378	2791
NE	Concord	88	47	67	+1	118	2355	2865
	Elgin	90	48	69	+4	131	2408	2815
	West Point	90	47	67	0	118	2502	2976
C	Grand Island	90	48	69	+4	133	2607	2792
	Lexington	93	48	71	+6	135	2685	2733
	Ord	91	45	70	+5	136	2510	2767
EC	Lincoln	92	50	71	+3	140	2874	3068
	Central City	90	44	69	+3	133	2603	2837
	Mead	93	47	68	0	122	2665	3045
SW	Champion	98	45	70	+6	129	2383	2644
	North Platte	98	43	71	+6	136	2475	2681
	Curtis	97	47	70	+5	128	2567	2688
SC	Smithfield	91	46	69	+4	129	2549	2743
	Minden	91	47	69	+4	132	2643	2761
	Red Cloud	92	48	70	+5	136	2796	2821
SE	Beatrice	92	46	69	+1	131	2812	3068
	Clay Center	90	49	68	+3	126	2595	2818
	Nemaha	90	52	70	+2	137	2913	3078

Source: High Plains Climate Center.